

PURCHASED SERVICES

In addition to direct services provided by the CD Staff, the Division administers an extensive array of purchased services. These are purchased from local public and private providers. Contracted providers play a major role in extending services to client families throughout the state. Currently, approximately 1,800 children and their families are case managed by private providers. The case management contracts are designed to obtain permanency for children in out-of-home placements. They include performance measures related to safety, stability, and permanence. In addition, one provider manages children who are in or at risk of being in long-term residential placements. Intensive case management services are designed to stabilize the child. However, in some situations the provider manages the case until permanency is achieved.

Children's Treatment Services that may be purchased include:

- Crisis Intervention
- Day Treatment
- Family Therapy
- Family Assistance
- Group Therapy
- Home-based Family Centered Services
- Homemaker Services
- Individual Therapy
- Mental Health Assessment
- Parent Aide
- Parent Education Program
- Psychological Testing
- Resource Coordination
- Respite Care for Foster Parents

Purchased Services, other than CTS, include:

- Case Management Services
- Consultation Services
- Crisis Nursery Services
- Day Care
- Domestic Violence Support Services
- Emergency Shelter
- Family Reunion Services
- Foster Care /Adoption Training and Assessment Services
- Foster Care/Adoption Recruitment
- Independent Living Program Services
- Intensive In-Home Services
- Medical Examinations
- Residential Care

- Transitional Living Program Services

Generally, purchased services are available to individuals and families who are receiving protective and preventive Family-centered Services. They are usually provided as a result of a probable cause to suspect child abuse/neglect report. However, services such as crisis nursery are prevention programs. These services would be available to families who are not receiving child protective services. Purchased services are also authorized for children in foster and adoptive placements and their families.

While all of the services listed can be equally important to children and families, multiple contracts can result in fragmented services. A Request for Proposal for Performance Based Case Management Services was released in March 2005. This contract will include the provision for a case rate for many of the services listed above. Contractors will have the ability to provide services directly or purchase them. This contract is a step in the direction of improving our continuity of services for children and families. This contract will pilot in the St. Louis, Kansas City, and Springfield regions of the state.

The Children's Division utilizes Medicaid funding when possible but many purchased services are not Medicaid eligible. Therefore, many purchased services are solely dependent upon state general revenue dollars. This poses an ongoing challenge during tough fiscal times.